

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOME 02522 031922Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W
-----081842 041151Z /50
R 031630Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4588

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 2522

FOR AF/P

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON XA
SUBJ: AF CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 8-13, 1978

1. SINCE LOME WILL HAVE AN ENTIRELY NEW FRONT OFFICE BY THE TIME OF THE CONFERENCE I WILL REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING IN DETAIL ON THE SUGGESTED AGENDA TOPICS. I NOTE, HOWEVER, AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT IS ENTIRELY MISSING FROM THE LIST.

2. AF MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER AN AGENDA ITEM CONCERNING THE FRENCH INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA. I HAVE NOTED FROM TIME TO TIME IN OFFICIAL TRAFFIC AND EVEN PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY US OFFICIALS SOME AMBIVALENCE AS TO WHETHER THE FRENCH EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THEIR INFLUENCE IN AFRICA ARE CONSTRUCTIVE OR MERELY SELF-SERVING. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL THEREFORE TO THRASH THIS QUESTION OUT IN A CONCLAVE OF AFRICAN POLICY MAKERS. SUCH A DISCUSSION COULD SHED LIGHT UPON SEVERAL ITEMS OF THE AGENDA, ESPECIALLY THOSE CONCERNING OUR RELATIONS WITH SO-CALLED "MODERATE" STATES AND OUR ROLE IN ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN AFRICA. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LOME02522
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780319-0037
Format: TEL
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808103/aaaadihz.tel
Line Count: 43
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1549417
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AF CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 8-13, 1978
TAGS: OCON, XA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a3160358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014